UNITED
NATIONS

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Economic and Social Council

Distr.
GENERAL

E/CN.6/1996/NGO/4
20 February 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
Fortieth session
11-22 March 1996
Item 3 of the provisional agenda*

FOLLOW-UP TO THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN

Statement submitted by International Federation of Business and and Professional Women, Zonta International, non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, category I; International Council on Alcohol and Addictions (ICAA), Socialist International Women (SIW), World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts, non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, category II; and International Inner Wheel and International Round Table for the Advancement of Counselling (IRTAC), non-governmental organizations on the roster

The Secretary-General has received the following statement, which is being circulated in accordance with paragraphs 29 and 30 of Economic and Social resolution 1296 (XLIV) of 23 May 1968.

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The above-mentioned organizations express their concern that in periods of recession, when structural unemployment is increasing, women are specially affected.

We are alarmed that in the year of eradication of poverty, women are disproportionately victimized by the economic recession.

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* E/CN.6/1996/1.

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We demand that gender-sensitive measures be taken in order to minimize the negative effects of adjustment programmes on women. Adequate vocational training, counselling and retraining shall be provided by Governments and international institutions.

We expect innovative solutions for creation of new jobs, in particular for women.